

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the instant application:

Listing of Claims:

1-18. (Cancelled).

19. (Currently Amended) A method of disambiguating database search results, the method comprising:

retrieving multiple database entries responsive to a database search, wherein said retrieved database entries include a plurality of common data fields;

processing data items in each of the data fields of said retrieved database entries according to predetermined disambiguation criteria;

based upon said processing, identifying from among said plurality of common data fields at least one disambiguation data field that satisfies said predetermined disambiguation criteria;

excluding data fields having data items that are not able to be accurately pronounced using a speech interface, wherein data item pronounceability is determined using at least one of a determination technique based upon a failed dictionary lookup where the dictionary contains pronounceable data items and a determination technique that analyzes patterns of consonant-vowel combinations occurring within the data items;

selecting one disambiguation data field based on a predetermined selection criterion when more than one disambiguation data field is identified in the identifying step, wherein the selected data field has not been excluded; and

presenting, through [[a]] the speech interface, data items corresponding to said selected disambiguation data field for each said retrieved database entry, wherein said speech interface is used in conjunction with a system in which said database search is

performed, and wherein said speech interface provides users of said system with an interface for searching for information contained within a database in which said database search was conducted and ~~with an interface~~ for audibly receiving results of said database search.

20. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 19, wherein said processing step comprises:
excluding data fields of said retrieved database entries having duplicate data items.
21. (Cancelled)
22. (Currently Amended) The method of claim [[21]] 19, wherein said processing step further comprises:
excluding data fields having data items that exceed a predetermined maximum length, wherein the maximum length is determined from an empirical analysis of a relative ease with which users recall audibly presented speech items.
23. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 19, wherein said selecting step comprises:
selecting the disambiguation data field having data items with a smallest average length.
24. (Currently Amended) A method of disambiguating database search results, the method comprising:
retrieving multiple database entries responsive to a database search, wherein said retrieved database entries include a plurality of common data fields;

processing data items in the data fields of said retrieved database entries according to predetermined disambiguation criteria;

based upon said processing, identifying from among said plurality of common data fields at least one disambiguation data field that satisfies said predetermined disambiguation criteria;

excluding data fields having data items that are not able to be accurately pronounced using a speech interface, wherein data item pronounceability is determined using at least one of a determination technique based upon a failed dictionary lookup where the dictionary contains pronounceable data items and a determination technique that analyzes patterns of consonant-vowel combinations occurring within the data items;

selecting one disambiguation data field based on a user input when more than one disambiguation data field is identified in the identifying step, wherein the selected data field has not been excluded; and

presenting, through [[a]] the speech interface, data items corresponding to said selected disambiguation data field for each said retrieved database entry, wherein said speech interface is used in conjunction with a system in which said database search is performed, and wherein said speech interface provides users of said system with an interface for searching for information contained within a database in which said database search was conducted and ~~with an interface for audibly receiving results of said database search.~~

25. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 24, wherein said processing step comprises:

excluding data fields of said retrieved database entries having duplicate data items.

26. (Cancelled)

27. (Currently Amended) The method of claim [[26]] 24, wherein said processing step further comprises:

excluding data fields having data items that exceed a predetermined maximum length, wherein the maximum length is determined from an empirical analysis of a relative ease with which users recall audibly presented speech items.

28. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 24, further comprising:

receiving a user input specifying a data item associated with said selected disambiguation data field to disambiguate said retrieved database entries.

29. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable storage, having stored thereon a computer program having a plurality of code sections executable by a computer for causing the computer to perform the steps of:

retrieving multiple database entries responsive to a database search, wherein said retrieved database entries include a plurality of common data fields;

processing data items in each of the data fields of said retrieved database entries according to predetermined disambiguation criteria;

based upon said processing, identifying from among said plurality of common data fields at least one disambiguation data field that satisfies said predetermined disambiguation criteria;

excluding data fields having data items that are not able to be accurately pronounced using a speech interface, wherein data item pronounceability is determined using at least one of a determination technique based upon a failed dictionary lookup where the dictionary contains pronounceable data items and a determination technique that analyzes patterns of consonant-vowel combinations occurring within the data items;

selecting one disambiguation data field based on a predetermined selection criterion when more than one disambiguation data field is identified in the identifying step, wherein the selected data field has not been excluded; and

presenting, through [[a]] the speech interface, data items corresponding to said selected disambiguation data field for each said retrieved database entry, wherein said speech interface is used in conjunction with a system in which said database search is performed, and wherein said speech interface provides users of said system with an interface for searching for information contained within a database in which said database search was conducted and ~~with an interface for~~ audibly receiving results of said database search.

30. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable storage of claim 29, wherein said processing step comprises:

excluding data fields of said retrieved database entries having duplicate data items.

31. (Cancelled)

32. (Currently Amended) The computer-readable storage of claim [[31]] 29, said processing step further comprises:

excluding data fields having data items that exceed a predetermined maximum length, wherein the maximum length is determined from an empirical analysis of a relative ease with which users recall audibly presented speech items.

33. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable storage of claim 29, said selecting step comprises:

selecting the disambiguation data field having data items with a smallest average length.

34. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable storage, having stored thereon a computer program having a plurality of code sections executable by a computer for causing the computer to perform the steps of:

retrieving multiple database entries responsive to a database search, wherein said retrieved database entries include a plurality of common data fields;

processing data items in the data fields of said retrieved database entries according to predetermined disambiguation criteria;

based upon said processing, identifying from among said plurality of common data fields at least one disambiguation data field that satisfies said predetermined disambiguation criteria;

excluding data fields having data items that are not able to be accurately pronounced using a speech interface, wherein data item pronounceability is determined using at least one of a determination technique based upon a failed dictionary lookup where the dictionary contains pronounceable data items and a determination technique that analyzes patterns of consonant-vowel combinations occurring within the data items;

selecting one disambiguation data field based on a user input when more than one disambiguation data field is identified in the identifying step, wherein the selected data field has not been excluded; and

presenting, through [[a]] the speech interface, data items corresponding to said selected disambiguation data field for each said retrieved database entry, wherein said speech interface is used in conjunction with a system in which said database search is performed, and wherein said speech interface provides users of said system with an interface for searching for information contained within a database in which said database

search was conducted and ~~with an interface for audibly receiving results of said database search.~~

35. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable storage of claim 34, wherein said processing step comprises:

excluding data fields of said retrieved database entries having duplicate data items.

36. (Cancelled)

37. (Currently Amended) The computer -readable storage of claim [[36]] 34, wherein said processing step further comprises:

excluding data fields having data items that exceed a predetermined maximum length, wherein the maximum length is determined from an empirical analysis of a relative ease with which users recall audibly presented speech items.

38. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable storage of claim 34, further comprising:

receiving a user input specifying a data item associated with said selected disambiguation data field to disambiguate said retrieved database entries.